

The airing of an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election by Sinclair Broadcasting is a frightening example of the dangers of media consolidation. Those, like Sinclair, who use the public airwaves free of charge, are obligated by law to serve the public interest. When large companies control the airwaves, what's good for the bottom line becomes more important than ensuring that what's on the air represents democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, news about substantive issues affecting our own communities should be paramount. Sinclair's actions show that media ownership rules must be stronger, not weaker. They show why the license renewal process needs to be scrutinized, and must involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.